

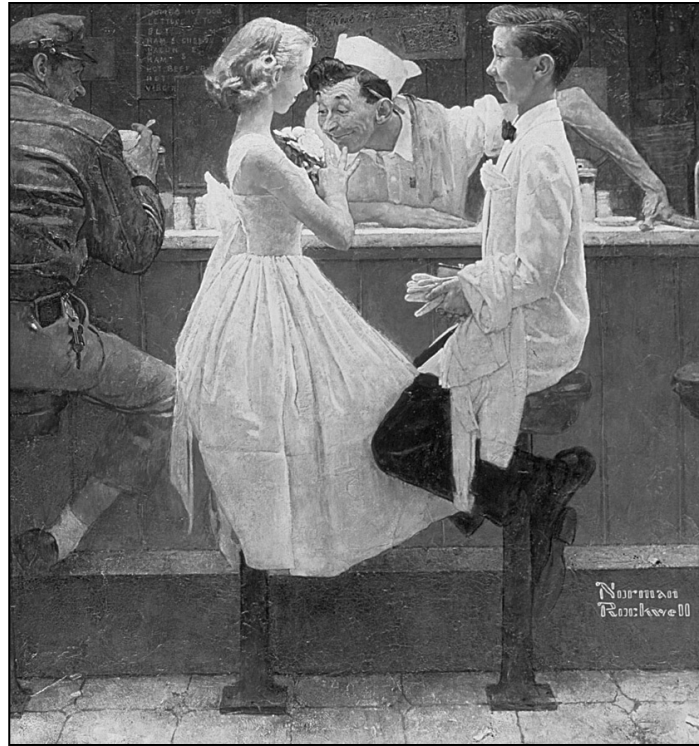
Happy Birthday Miss Jones

Saturday Evening Post cover, March 17, 1956 ©1956 SEPS: Licensed by Curtis Publishing, Indianapolis, IN.

Although Rockwell often focused on the ordinary episodes of life, which he invested with a sense of heightened significance, he often avoided specifying places or times in his pictures, and he downplayed the economic and class identity of his characters.

Of Miss Jones, Rockwell said, “I painted this cover as a sort of tribute to school-teachers — in particular, my favorite teacher, Miss Julia Smith, who taught me all the history, arithmetic, grammar and geography I know and encouraged me to draw; at Christmastime, Santa Claus and his reindeer in colored chalks on the blackboard; in geography class, Arabs, and Indians, in history, covered wagons and Puritans . . . I made a sketch while painting the cover, because I had lost track of what I wanted to express in the portrait of the school teacher — the selfless devotion of teachers, willing to work long hours for their students. A quick sketch sometimes helps me to regain the freshness and vitality of my original inspiration.”

Discretely Presented Component Unit Financial Statements



After the Prom

Saturday Evening Post cover, May 25, 1957 ©1957 SEPS: Licensed by Curtis Publishing, Indianapolis, IN.

Rockwell called this illustration “his chinless” picture. He commented, “If you notice, not one of the characters in it possesses a normal chin — all weak as polliwogs. I even concealed the chin on the man on the left behind his shoulder. I don’t know why. How much more delightful the cover would have been if I had painted the models as they really were — a sweet pretty young girl, a good-looking boy. I had intended to paint a warm, pleasant picture — a young girl after her first prom. But then I was overcome by an irresistible impulse to caricature.”